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October 28, 2011

Mayor Vincent C. Gray
Government of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Mayor Gray:

On behalf of the EMAP Commission, I am pleased to inform you that the District of Columbia's emergency management program has been granted full accreditation by the Emergency Management Accreditation Program. The EMAP Commission voted on the District of Columbia's accreditation review report, upon Program Review Committee recommendation, at its meeting today.

Emergency management accreditation represents a significant achievement. The District of Columbia's is commended for the work accomplished to achieve compliance with national standards. To achieve accreditation, your program, which includes many agencies and individuals within the district, took steps to document compliance with sixty- three national standards and a peer-review on-site assessment by a team of EMAP trained assessors.

Accreditation recognizes the ability of government to bring together personnel, resources, and communications from a variety of agencies and organizations in preparation for and in response to a disaster of any type. These capabilities form the foundation of the nation's disaster response system. We applaud the District of Columbia's leadership and congratulate you on your commitment to achieve accreditation. More importantly, we recognize the dedication to the safety and security of the District of Columbia's residents that it represents.

Attached for your use, as you desire is a news release regarding the District of Columbia's achievement. In the coming weeks, EMAP will provide a plaque recognizing the District of Columbia's accredited status. If the EMAP staff or I can be of assistance or provide more information, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, which appears to read "Jerome Hatfield".

Jerome Hatfield
EMAP Commission Chairperson

cc: Millicent West, Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management